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NEW BREAK-CIRCUIT ATTACHMENT FOR HOHWU SIDERIAL CLOCK, No. 8.

By R. H. Tucker.

The break-circuit made for this clock by Mr. A. F. Poole was attached on April 1st.

It has required adjustment from time to time, owing possibly to change in the length of the pendulum rod, from changes in temperature. The adjustment can be easily and accurately made, the construction admitting of great delicacy.

Although the pendulum has to do the work of breaking the circuit, by raising a balanced lever, similar in character to that required by the spring attachment used previously on this clock, and on clock No. 3, by the same maker, the rate of the clock does not appear to be affected thereby.

The following rates will show the performancc of the clock with the break attachment, and without:

Daily Rate,	April 12 to April 22,	$+0^{s}.43$,	with break;
" "	April 22 to May 2,	$+0.47$,	without break;
" "	May 2 to May 12,	$+0.40$,	with break.

NOTE ON THE YERKES OBSERVATORY.

By Professor G. E. Hale, Director.

The illustration in this number of the *Publications* is a reproduction of a water-color sketch showing the Yerkes Observatory as it will appear when completed. The construction of the building at Lake Geneva is now advancing rapidly, and it is hoped that the forty-inch telescope will be ready for use in the spring of 1896.

The form of the building is that of a Roman cross, with three domes and a meridian room at the extremities. The long axis of the cross lies east and west, with the dome for the forty-inch telescope at the western end. This dome, for which the contract has been awarded to Warner & Swasey, is ninety feet in diameter. As the tube of the forty-inch telescope is sixty-two feet long there will be plenty of space for a solar spectroscope nine feet long, and a dew-cap of about equal length. The shutter-opening is twelve feet wide. Adjustable canvas curtains will be provided to shield the telescope from the wind.

WARNER & SWASEY have also been awarded the contract for the rising floor. It is seventy-five feet in diameter and will have a vertical motion of twenty-two feet. Both the floor and dome will be moved by electric motors.

Of the two smaller domes, the one to the northeast will contain the twelve-inch telescope now at the KENWOOD Observatory, and the other a sixteen-inch telescope. Between these domes is the heliostat room, one hundred feet long by twelve feet wide. The heliostat will stand on a pier at the north end of the room, under an iron roof which can be rolled away to the south.

The meridian room has double sheet-iron walls, with an intervening air space. The room is designed to contain a meridian circle of large aperture, but for the present a transit instrument will suffice for the purposes of the Observatory.

The body of the building is divided through the center by a hallway extending from the meridian room to the great tower. On either side are offices and computing rooms, a library, lecture room, spectroscopic laboratory, optical room, dark room, developing room, galvanometer room, chemical laboratory, instrument rooms, etc. In the basement is a large photographic dark room, an enlarging room, concave grating room, emulsion room, constant-temperature room, and physical laboratory.

The building is constructed of gray Roman brick, with gray terra-cotta and stone timmings. It is situated in the midst of a large tract of land on the shores of Lake Geneva, Wisconsin (about seventy-five miles from Chicago), at an elevation of 180 feet above the lake. The architect is Mr. HENRY IVES COBB, of Chicago.

The engines, dynamos and boilers for supplying power and heat are to be at a distance of several hundred feet from the Observatory. In the small building that contains them will also be the shops for the construction and repair of special instruments and apparatus.—Reprinted from the *Astro-Physical Journal* for June, 1895, with a few corrections by the author.